

Message Text

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ACTION FAA-00

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2883
IFFO RUTAIJ/AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 7914
AMEMBASSY BISSAU POUCH
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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STATE FOR FAA AIA-1, AED-1, AEM-1, APA-1

BRUSSELS AND MONROVIA FOR FAA

MONTREAL FOR DOWNS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, SG
SUBJECT: DAKAR TRSB/MLS DEMONSTRATION-WRAPUP

1. SUMMARY: DAKAR TRSB/MLS DEMONSTRATION FEBRUARY 14
AND 15 DREW LARGE AUDIENCE AND RECEIVED EXCELLENT PRESS
COVERAGE. KEY SENEGALESE AVIATION OFFICIALS WERE IN
ATTENDANCE AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER WEST
AFRICAN COUNTRIES. TWO REGIONAL AVIATION ORGANIZATIONS,
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ASECNA AND AFCAC, WERE REPRESENTED AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS.
FAA REPRESENTATIVES AND EMBOFFS IN AGREEMENT DEMONSTRATION
SUCCESSFUL AND ARE HOPEFUL OF SUPPORT FROM WEST AFRICAN
ATTENDEES AT MONTREAL ICAO MEETING IN APRIL.END SUMMARY.

2. DAKAR TRSB/MLS DEMONSTRATION FEBRUARY 14 AND 15 WAS

ATTENDED BY 134 PERSONS, OF WHOM TOTAL OF 90 TOOK PART IN EIGHT DEMONSTRATION FLIGHTS. LARGE CONTINGENT FROM ASECNA, 14-NATION FRANCOPHONE AFRICA AVIATION SECURITY AND NAVIGATION ORGANIZATION HEADQUARTERED IN DAKAR, WAS LED BY DIRECTOR GENERAL PAUL MALEKOU AND HIS DEPUTY MAMADOU CHIEFFOU. SEVEN NATIONALITIES WERE PRESENT AMONG ASECNA ATTENDEES. ANOTHER REGIONAL ORGANIZATION BASED HERE, AFCAC (42-COUNTRY CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION ASSOCIATED WITH ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY), WAS REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY-GENERAL, EDOUARD LOMBOLOU. LOCAL SENEGALESE OFFICIALS MADIAMA TALL, COMMANDANT OF DAKAR AIRPORT, DIAGOMAYE DIOP, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION, AND COLONEL MAMADOU SECK, AIR FORCE COMMANDANT, WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE. ACTING ICAO REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE MERABET AND TWO DEPUTIES (ONE OF WHOM HELPED WITH INTERPRETING) ALSO ATTENDED. TWO-MAN TEAMS FROM IVORY COAST AND GUINEA BISSAU (INCLUDING DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION MENDES-CORREIA) FLEW TO DAKAR EXPRESSLY FOR DEMONSTRATIONS. FOUR AIRLINES, SABENA, AIR MAURITANIA, AIR AFRIQUE AND AIR FRANCE, SENT PARTICIPANTS. MEDIA COVERAGE INCLUDED FRONT PAGE ARTICLE AND PHOTO IN DAKAR'S ONLY DAILY NEWSPAPER AND A FOUR-MINUTE RADIO REPORT.

3. ASECNA DIRECTOR GENERAL MALEKOU CALLED DEMONSTRATION "VERY CONVINCING" AND TOLD AMBASSADOR: "NOW WE KNOW WHICH WAY WE WILL GO (AT MONTREAL)." CHIEFFOU, ASECNA'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER, WAS IMPRESSED BY MLS RELIABILITY, EASE OF INSTALLATION AND FOUND COST REASONABLE. TALL TOLD US THAT HE EXPECTS ASECNA COUNTRIES TO SUPPORT TRSB IN ICAO MEETING BUT HE COULD NOT PREDICT HOW MANY ASECNA MEMBERS WOULD ATTEND. SENEGALESE REMAIN INTERESTED IN TRSB/MLS AS MEANS TO ALLOW NEW FLIGHT APPROACHES TO YOFF AIRPORT TO ALLEVIATE CURRENT NOISE PROBLEM.

4. FOR NAIROBI AND SHIRAZ/TEHRAN: FYI, WE FOUND THAT OVER 80 PERCENT OF PARTICIPANTS SHOWED UP FOR INITIAL BRIEFING SESSION MORNING OF FEBRUARY 14. FOLLOWING BRIEFING, PARTICIPANTS WERE ASSIGNED TO DEMONSTRATION FLIGHTS WHICH CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE DAY UNTIL ABOUT 1900. TURNOUT FOR AFTERNOON BRIEFING WAS LIGHT FIRST DAY, NIL SECOND.

5. EMBASSY SHARES ADMIRATION WIDELY EXPRESSED BY AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS FOR FAA TEAM'S ABILITY TO SET UP, OPERATE AND DISMANTLE COMPLICATED TECHNICAL INSTALLATION AND CARRY OUT ELABORATE DEMONSTRATION WITH SUCH EFFICIENCY AND PROFESSIONALISM. THIS SPECTACLE OF AMERICAN

INGENUITY WILL ASSUREDLY HAVE LEFT LASTING IMPRESSION ON LOCAL
OBSERVERS. WE LIKEWISE CONSIDERED WHOLEHEARTED COOPERATION
RECEIVED FROM ASECNA AND SENEGALESE AUTHORITIES TO BE
NOTABLE GESTURE TOWARD U.S. ON THEIR PART.
COHEN

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